

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

The claims have been amended as suggested in the Official Action and as suggested in the Examiner's proposed amendment dated January 5, 2004.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that each ground of rejection set forth in the Official Action have been overcome, and that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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